

Full Council

12 October 2023

Dispensation Under Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972

For Decision

Portfolio Holder: Cllr S Flower, Leader of the Council

Local Councillor(s): N/a

Executive Director: J Mair, Director of Legal & Democratic

Report Author: Susan Dallison
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Report Status: Public

Brief Summary:

Under Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972, if a member of a local authority fails to attend a meeting throughout a period of 6 consecutive months, they shall cease to be a member of the local authority, unless the failure to attend was due to some reason approved by the Full Council before the expiry of that period.

Recommendation:

To approve a dispensation for Cllr P Wharf from attending meetings of the Council until 2 May 2024, by reason of ill health.

Reason for Recommendation:

To comply with the requirements of the Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972.

1. **Report**

- 1.1 Cllr P Wharf last attended a committee meeting on 12 April 2023 and due to ill health sent his apologies for the Full Council meeting on 11 May 2023. Officers have been advised that Cllr Wharf is unlikely to be well

enough to attend the Full Council meeting on 12 October 2023; without a dispensation from Full Council Cllr P Wharf would cease to be a member of Dorset Council on 11 November 2023. Full Council is therefore requested to grant this request for a dispensation for non-attendance with immediate effect.

- 1.2 The Leader of the Conservative Group has been consulted about this process and agrees with the recommendation contained within this report. Ward work will continue to be shared between the two ward members with Cllr Laura Beddow co-ordinating as appropriate.

2. **Financial Implications**

None

3. **Climate Implications**

None

4. **Well-being and Health Implications**

None

5. **Other Implications**

None

6. **Risk Assessment**

- 6.1 HAVING CONSIDERED: the risks associated with this decision; the level of risk has been identified as:
Current Risk: low
Residual Risk: low

7. **Equalities Impact Assessment**

N/A

8. **Appendices**

None

9. **Background Papers**

None